First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

December 18, 2022
10:00 am
Fourth Sunday in Advent

“God With Us”

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Hybrid Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud **PAUL LELAND HILL**

"Christmas Time Is Here"
By, Vince Guaraldi

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME **PASTOR LIZ**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS **KIKI FUGATE**

- **COMMUNITY SHARING OF OTHER ANNOUNCMENTS:**
  - Worship Leader is Kiki Fugate.
  - Greeters are Patty Sherwood (Roomie), Jeanette Sherrill (Zoomie) and they will introduce folks participating in worship.
  - The Greeter will introduce folks participating in worship.
  - Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
  - Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight Tuesday.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Longing for Light", v.1-5, Refrain
Bernadette, Farrell

CALL TO WORSHIP **KIKI FUGATE**

Leader: Love abundant overflows pouring into our midst.
We are together and never alone.
Gathered on this fourth Sunday in Advent
we witness to God's deep love and tender compassion for the whole.
Our witness is love.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

ALL: God-who-never-ceases-to-love,
kindle our hearts that we may burn anew with your love.
Bless us with the flame of lively living and believing.
Take our words and release them to speak of you;
Take our minds and broaden them to reflect your overflowing love.
Take our hearts and set them alight with your desire for goodness
In the name of the One full of love.

HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Adeste Fideles (O Come, All You Faithful)"
135 NCH v.1,3,4

LISTENING FOR GOD

FIRST READING **Isaiah 7:10-16** **KIKI FUGATE**

SECOND READING **Matt 1:18-25** **PASTOR LIZ**

HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Mary, Woman of the Promise"
123 NCH

MORNING MESSAGE **"God With Us"** **PASTOR LIZ**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording

*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **PASTOR LIZ**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER *Unison with Microphone muted **PASTOR LIZ**

God, our shepherd – Restorer of our souls,
In a world full of hopelessness, we have sometimes forgotten
that you have shown your hope in endless ways.
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, so we may know your hope.
In the mirey mess of the world, we have sometimes neglected to lean
into your peace that transcends comprehension.
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, so we may know your peace.
In a culture shrouded in doom and despair, we have often forgotten
how to work for our joy.
Restore us, O God; let your face shine, so we may know your joy.
In a moment when it is easier to hate others because they believe differently,
love differently, live differently, vote differently,
we have forgotten how to love beyond the bounds of what separates us.
Restore us, O God; let your face shine,
so we may know your love now and evermore. Amen

OFFERING

INVITATION TO OFFERING **PASTOR LIZ**

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Please place in-person offerings in the gold offering plaTe on the table by the door.

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **"What Child Is This"** **JOHN LELAND HILL**
Traditional, Arr Vince Guaraldi

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
"Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"
136 NCH

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **KIKI FUGATE**

We dedicate these gifts shared for strengthening the beloved community.
Let these gifts do justice in the world, making it known all are loved by God.
Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
"Gentle Joseph, Joseph Dear"
105 NCH

BENEDICTION *Responsive **PASTOR LIZ**

Leader: Go forth knowing you are loved by God.

People: Go forth leading a life that is a sign of God's grace.

Leader: Go forth with anticipation for the restoration that is to come.

People: And in going,

Leader: May God bless and keep you.
May God's face shine upon you.
May God be gracious to you and give you peace.
Amen.

People: Amen.

POSTLUDE Please remain seated **PAUL LELAND HILL**

"O Christmas Tree"

Traditional, Arr Vince Guaraldi

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

*Save Zoom Recording to Cloud (click "yes")

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Hybrid Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Paul Leland Hill, Guest Accompanist

Jenn Zibbell, MID Ministry Intern
Kiki Fugate, Worship Leader
Greeters: Patty Sherwood & Jeanette Sherrill
Patty Sherwood, Usher & Bell Ringer

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ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** blogspot.com
- **Call to Worship and Advent Candle Lighting:** Michael N. Jegessar, United Church of Canada (adapted)
- **Disciples Prayer/Prayer of Dedication/Benediction:** United Church of Christ *Worship Ways* (adapted)
- **Hymn Profiles:** *New Century Hymnal Companion,* Pilgrim Press (1999)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For pastoral care needs and/or emergencies, please call or text Pastor Liz, 734-358-6108

Celebrating Christmas and Christmastide:

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols Candle Lighting Service, *Come and See,* will be at 7:00 pm. This service will be hybrid (both in-person and on zoom). Many thanks to Jeanette Sherrill, Pastor Liz, Tiffanie and the worship team for designing this creative lovely service.

There will be no service on Sunday, Christmas Day.

January 1st, Zoom only, *The Gospel According to Sheep.* We will all be participating as sheep. Thank you to Jeanette Sherrill for sharing this opportunity with us. EVERYONE will be on Zoom for this service. Come be part of the flock!

Christmas Offering: The Christmas Fund has been caring for active and retired clergy, and lay employees of the United Church of Christ for over 100 years. It provides emergency grants, small annuities and health premiums supplements, and Christmas "Thank You" gift checks each December to lower-income retirees. We will receive this special offering on December 24th

2022 Vitality Grant Award, Ypsi UCC Community Discernment Gatherings, and "Engaging Christian Contemplative Practices"

Some very exciting news: **Ypsi UCC has been awarded a $3,000 Vitality Grant from the UCC Michigan Conference to support our Community Discernment work based on Susan Beaumont's book.** We are one of only three churches in Michigan to receive this very competitive grant this year.

To provide additional support for our ongoing Community Discernment Gathering work, Church Council is offering Pastor Liz and all interested Ypsi UCC participants $150 scholarships to cover the cost of attending a 6-session evening Zoom seminar beginning titled "Engaging Christian Contemplative Practices" offered by the UCC Southern New England Center for Leadership Development. Read the detailed information included below or click on this link to learn more:

https://www.sneucc.org/eventdetail/16606401?month=1&year=2023&day=1&display=

Please let Donna Eyster, Moderator, (deyster63@gmail.com) know as soon as possible if you would like to attend. Donna will complete the seminar registration and payment for you. There are a limited number of spots, so register right away.

Our on-going Community Discernment Gatherings will continue via Zoom on Monday nights at 7:00 pm after our current Advent/Christmas/Epiphany "pause" beginning on January 23, 2023. If you have questions after reviewing the additional information attached below, please contact Pastor Liz (lizlarrivee@gmail.com).

THE CENTER FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP
IS PLEASED TO OFFER
ENGAGING CHRISTIAN CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES
A 6-PART ZOOM SERIES FACILITATED BY REV. MATT CARRIKER
What does "contemplation" mean? When we "contemplate" an idea, contemplation implies something deeper than thinking only. In contemplation, we start from a place of mystery and an acceptance of not knowing.
As we release fear's grip and open our minds and hearts, new revelations are revealed to us. We shall talk more about these foundations over the course of our "Introduction to Christian Contemplative Practices" gatherings.
SESSION DATES (2023):
JANUARY 18; FEBRUARY 1; FEBRUARY 15;
MARCH 1; MARCH 15; AND MARCH 29
FROM 7:00-8:30 PM
Southern New England Conference
United Church of Christ
Living the Love & Justice of Jesus
The Center for Transformational Leadership
Southern New England Conference
United Church of Christ

WHEN-

Zoom Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM Eastern Standard Time. This event recurs every 2 weeks on Wednesday, from Wednesday, January 18, 2023 to Wednesday, March 29, 2023.

<u>WeROC January Meeting of the Whole: In-Person Jan 5, 5:00 PM at Ypsi UCC</u>

This will be WeROC's first in-person monthly Meeting of the Whole since Covid. It will be held at Ypsi UCC. Tad, Melanie, and Pastor Liz will be experimenting with our hybrid worsto hip technology to support WeROC in its ability to offer a hybrid MOTW meeting option. All are invited to attend and demonstrate Ypsi UCC extravagant hospitality to our WeROC partners in our newly solidified organizational partnership. We are delighted to be exploring new ways for Ypsi UCC and WeROC to strengthen our partnership in 2023

OUR MINISTRIES

HOLY GROUNDS

During the Omicron (COVID) surge members of Ypsi UCC provided local coffee, tea, coffee cups, and single packaged snacks for the night shift at Trinity Health St. Joe Mercy Hospital where Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown is the night chaplain. While the COVID crisis has partially resolved, the stress level of the night staff has not. Contributing factors include the long-term emerging effects of COVID, a lack of staff, a nation-wide nurse shortage, and staff burnout. The night shift greatly appreciates this ministry of hospitality and caring.

Please consider donating coffee that is roasted by local Michigan companies. Tea and single packaged candy or snacks are also welcome. Please contact Marty Kleino at Mgkleino@gmail.com or 734-262-1419 to have your donation delivered to St. Joes. If you would like more information about this ministry, please contact Dan Kidder-McQuown at mcq188@gmail.com or 517-240-8413.

THE BEACON CENTER

The **Beacon Center** is the newest community social justice of the Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC. As a light to all persons, the Beacon Center's ministry will support the spiritual formation, creative expression, overall thriving and advocacy of at-risk students of all ages, including those affiliated with three primary local institutions of higher learning: Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College and University of Michigan. In the Spirit of the UCC moto, "That They All Shall Be One", Beacon Center serves as a uniting and unifying umbrella across our congregation serving persons sources through our three other community social justice ministry networks. Those ministries (each detailed below) include WICIR (Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights) serving the immigrant communities, MI-ONA (Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition) serving LGTBQ+ persons, and WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) which brings together faith, labor and community organizations to address local issues.

The Beacon Center is committed to advocate for self-determination and education for all people, especially students living in poverty, persons of color experiencing racism, and other de-humanizing circumstances and conditions. Beacon Center's student demographics include persons of color, immigrants, minorities, LGTBQ+ folk, women, those with special needs, the economically disadvantaged, those facing housing insecurity, the financially challenged, and the working poor. For additional information on the Beacon Center, please contact Rev. Liz Larrivee at lizlarrivee@gmail.com

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

Em Am7 Bm7 Esus Em
1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the
Am7 Bm7 Esus Em Am7
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants
D G C Am Dsus D
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, mak - ing your kin - dom come.

Text: Bernadette Farrell
Music: Bernadette Farrell

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G C G Em Bm Em
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Am7 D G Dsus D Em Em7/D
dark - - - - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
C Am7 D G Am7/G
1-4
G
Final
G
church gath - ered to - day.
church gath - ered to - day.
1-4
Final

1/2

135

Adeste Fideles
(O Come, All You Faithful)

Luke 2:11–15; John 1:14

Latin, 18th century; attrib. to John Francis Wade
Transl. Frederick Oakeley, 1841, and others; alt.

1 A - des - te, fi - de - les, lae - ti tri - um - phan - tes; ve -
1 O come, all you faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God of true God . . . Light of true Light . . .
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 A - men, Lord, we greet you, born this hap - py morn - ing;
ni - te, ve - ni - te in Beth - le - hem.
come now, O come now to Beth - le - hem.
born of the Vir - gin's womb in hu - man form;
sing, all you mes - sen - gers of heaven - ly love:
Je - sus to you shall all glo - ry be given;
Na - tum vi - de - te Re - gem an - ge - lo - rum.
Come and be - hold the rul - er of all an - gels:
Tru - ly our God, be - got - ten, not cre - at - ed:
"Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est":
Word of our God . . . . now in flesh ap - pear - ing:
Refrain
Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
O come in ad - o - ra - tion, O come in ad - o - ra - tion,

The Latin text and tune of this familiar hymn are found together in several eighteenth-century manuscripts signed by John F. Wade. Wade lived among a group of English Catholic refugees in northern France.

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES Irr. with refrain
English melody, 18th century
John F. Wade's Cantus Diversi, *c. 1743*
Harm. Collections of Motets or Antiphons, *1792*

135 Adeste Fideles (O Come, All You Faithful)

John Francis Wade (1711–1786) is believed to be the writer of this Latin text. Six manuscripts of the hymn exist, all in Wade's handwriting—the earliest and most likely original dating from 1743. The English version is based on a translation by Frederick Oakeley beginning "Ye faithful, approach ye."

John F. Wade was an Englishman who worked in Douay, France, a center for Catholic refugees from England following the abdication of King James II. Hymns that he wrote and transcribed from Latin were published in 1751. Wade was born in 1711 and died in 1786.

ADESTE FIDELES is a Roman Catholic tune that has found wide acceptance in Protestant churches. When the tune was first printed in 1782, no composer's name was indicated. It has served as a setting for many other hymns since the nineteenth century.

This Roman Catholic tune is now found in practically every Christian hymnal in the world. John F. Wade (1711–1786) is credited as the composer, but it is not known if the melody is original or copied from an earlier source. Wade was born in England but fled to France during the Jacobean rebellion of 1745.

123 Mary, Woman of the Promise

Luke 1:39–55

Mary Frances Fleischaker, 1988

1 Mar - y, wom - an of the prom - ise; ves - sel
of your peo - ple's dreams: Through your o - pen,
will - ing spir - it wa - ters of God's good - ness streamed.
2 Mar - y, song of ho - ly wis - dom sung be -
fore the world be - gan: Faith - ful to the
Word with - in you, as you bore God's won - drous plan.
3 Mar - y, morn - ing star of jus - tice; mir - ror
of the Ra - diant Light: In the shad - ows
of life's jour - ney, be a bea - con for our sight.
4 Mar - y, mod - el of com - pas - sion; wound - ed
by your off - spring's pain: When our hearts are
torn by sor - row, teach us how to love a - gain.
5 Mar - y, wom - an of the gos - pel; hum - ble
home for trea - sured seed: Help us to be
true dis - ci - ples, bear - ing fruit in word and deed.

This text, selected as the winner in a regional Hymn Society competition seeking contemporary Marian hymns, portrays Mary's many roles in fulfilling God's promise. The author is an Adrian Dominican sister whose ministry has focused on worship and the arts.

Tune: QUEM PASTORES 8.7.8.7.
German carol, 14th century
Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Harmonization Copyright ©, Oxford University Press. From *The English Hymnal 1906.*

Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child 136

African-American traditional; alt. *Luke 1:30–35; 2:8–14*

Je-sus, Je-sus, oh, what a won-der-ful child.
Je-sus, Je-sus, so ho-ly, meek, and mild; new
life, new hope the Child will bring. Lis-ten to the
an-gels sing, "Glo-ry, glo-ry, glo - ry;" let the heav-ens ring!

This gospel song praising the newborn Child might be effectively used by repeating it several times. It could be sung softly as a background for dance, story, or drama. Finger-snaps on the off-beats might be used to fill the rests.

Tune: WONDERFUL CHILD 11.10.8.7.11.
African-American traditional
Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1992

Jeffrey Paul Radford, was music director for 36 years at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago. Under his direction, the Trinity choirs sang throughout Chicago, in a dozen U.S. cities and performed in Switzerland, Germany, Puerto Rico and Cuba. In 1995 he was part of the team that created the UCC New Century Hymnal, with inclusive language and widened the inclusion of new hymns and hymns from around the world. He was instrumental in creating the UCC African American Hymnal.

Mr. Radford's father, a jazz musician, encouraged his son's musical interest. By age 10, Mr. Radford was studying piano. He was an adjunct faculty member at Chicago Theological Seminary and, after his death in 2002, he received a posthumous doctor of divinity degree from CTS for his contributions to musical ministry.

105 Gentle Joseph, Joseph Dear

Matt. 1:18–25

German carol, 15th century
Paraphr. by Carol Birkland, 1993

Unison
E♭
B♭/E♭
E♭
1 "Gen - tle Jo - seph, Jo - seph dear, stay with me, for the
2 "Glad - ly Mar - y, Mar - y mine, I will cra - dle the
3 "Peace to all and God's good-will," heaven and earth with this
B♭/E♭
Fm
Fm7
B♭7
ba - by's near; God will sure - ly your good - ness hear, as
child di - vine; Here will heav - en and earth com-bine, for
song will fill; Soon will God, in the eve - ning still, be
Gm
Cm
Fm/A♭
B♭
A♭/E♭
E♭
you will love this new - born child," says Mar - y.
you will bear God's child, O dear - est Mar - y."
born in Beth - le - hem, the child of Mar - y.

The German carol on which this is based appears in a mystery play, c. 1500. It is one of a group of related carols that also includes "In dulci jubilo"—"Good Christian friends, rejoice."

Tune: JOSEPH LIEBER, JOSEPH MEIN 7.8.8.11.
German carol, 15th century
Harm. The New Century Hymnal, *1993*